

28

Name: Johnson Coverd Bridge

Location: Mugser Run in Cleveland Township on Twp. Rt. 320 east of Knoebel's Grove Amusement Park

UTM: Zone 18 N4526050

E 374970

Acreage: .06

Owner: Columbia County

Stream: Mugser Run

Truss Type: Warren Truss

Builder: Daniel Stine

Year: 1882

End Post to

End Post Length: 60 feet, 9 inches

Clearance: 12 feet

Road Surface:

Width: 13 feet, 6 inches

Load: 4 tons (county records)

Distinguishing

Features: Portals tilt inward slightly from the roof to the deck.

Six planks are pinned together thickness-wise around the main structural brace where it meets the abutments.

Condition: Fairly good condition.

The metal panels of the roof are coming apart in places and are in need of repair.

The ribs and rafters are in excellent condition.

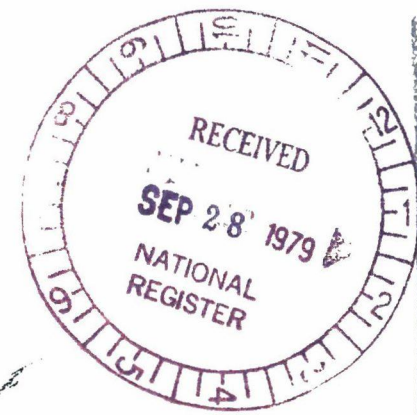
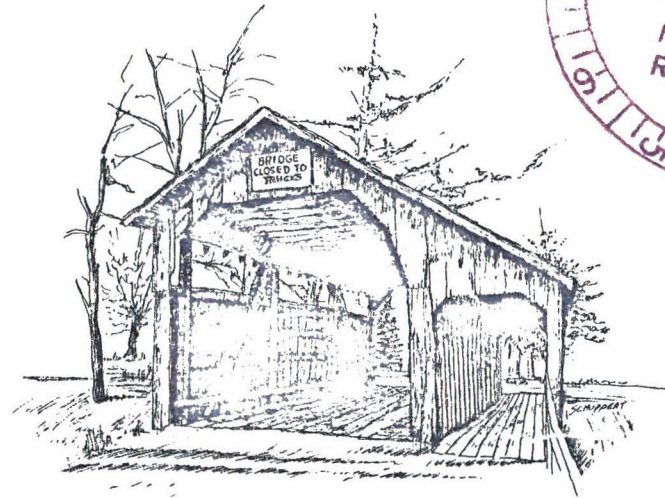
The portals are covered with board and batten, and are in reasonably good condition.

The board and batten wall coverings are sagging and in need of repair work.

The abutments have been extensively repaired with concrete. Other areas of the abutments are in need of repair also.

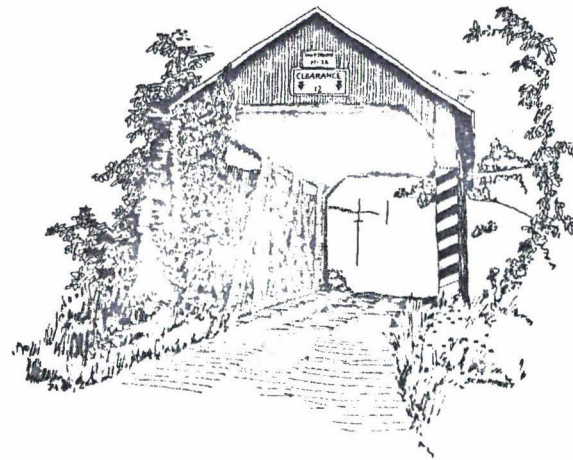
Lawrence L. Knoebel Bridge - is located in Knoebel's Grove Amusement Park and spans the South Branch of Roaring Creek, connecting Cleveland Township, Columbia County, with Ralpho Township, Northumberland County. The park is located at the County line, off Pa. Rte. 487 between Catawissa and Elysburg.

This bridge was originally constructed over West Creek, near Benton, Columbia County, in 1881 by J. J. McHenry at a cost of \$348.00. In 1936 it was sold to H. H. Knoebel and Sons for \$40.00.(see right)



#28 Johnson Bridge - spans Mugser Run, a tributary of the South Branch of Roaring Creek in Cleveland Township, Columbia County. It is on Twp. Rte. 320 east of Knoebel's Grove Amusement Park.

This bridge was constructed in 1882 by Daniel Stine for \$799.00. Adam M. Johnson was a farmer in the area and also conducted a boot and shoe store near the site. (see photo to right)



Property *Covered Bridges of Columbia and Montour Counties Thematic Resource*

State *PA (Columbia + Montour)* Working Number *9.28.79.2286*

TECHNICAL

Photos 48
Maps 11

CONTROL

25 covered bridges in the 2 counties built between 1800-1899. they are nominated for architecture and engineering. the description and statement of significance are adequate.

HISTORIAN

*accept
Patrick Andrus
11.5.79*

Statements of significance are identical for all bridges, but there is a reasonable amount of descriptive material for each one. Bridges meet criteria as examples of a building type with several variations on construction technique.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

*Accept
O'Connell
11/29/79*

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry 2-5-80

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____

Entered **NOV 29 1979**

INT:2106-74



#25

Covered Bridges of Columbia County

PD: 1979

Montour Counties Thematic

SEP 28 1979

PC: B.Pennesi

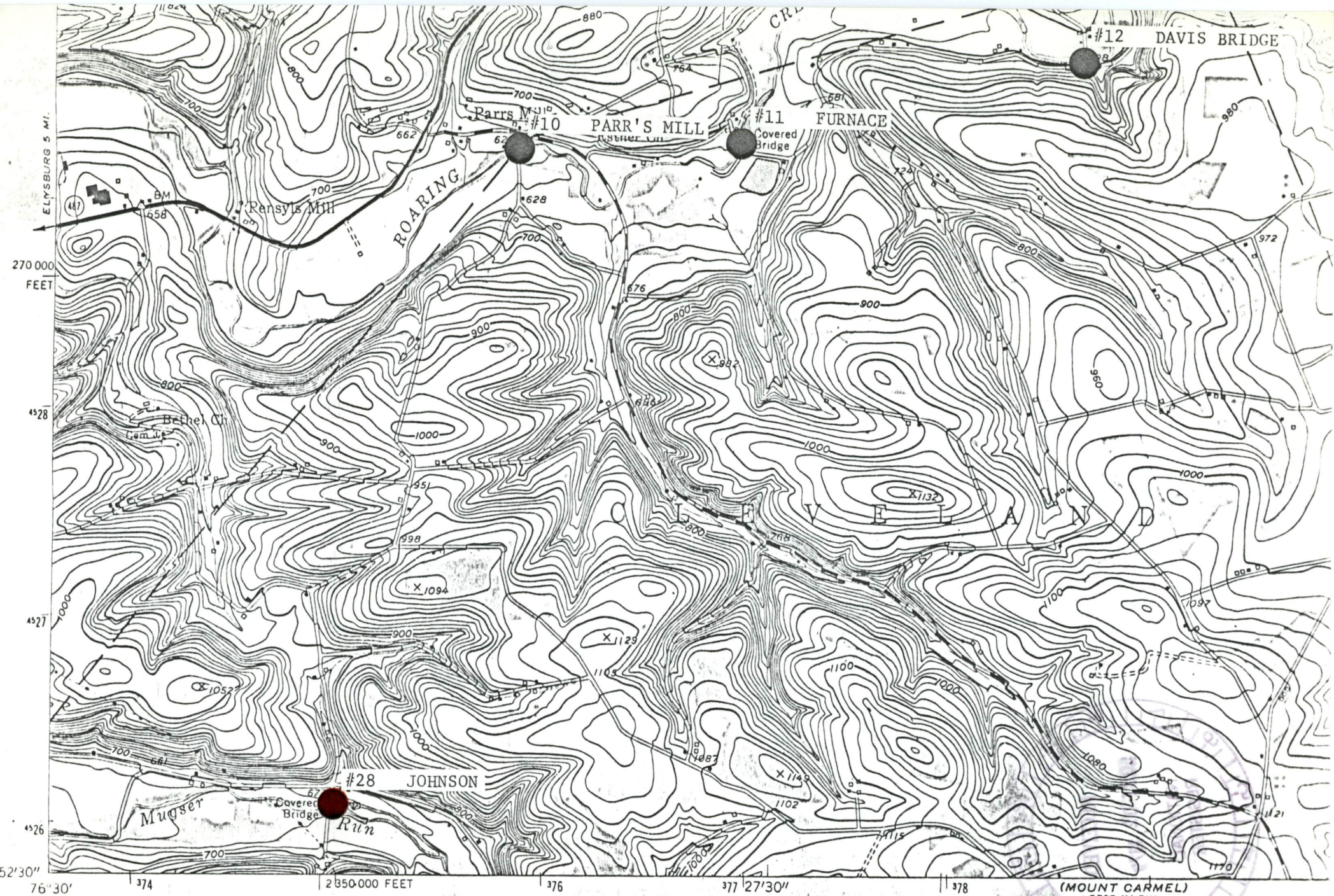
Resources

PV: Johnson Covered Bridge

(38-19-37)

Columbia + Montour Counties

NOV 29 1979



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

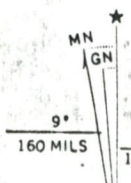
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods

Aerial photographs taken 1942. Field check 1944

Culture revised 1955

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum

10,000-foot grid based on Pennsylvania coordinate system,

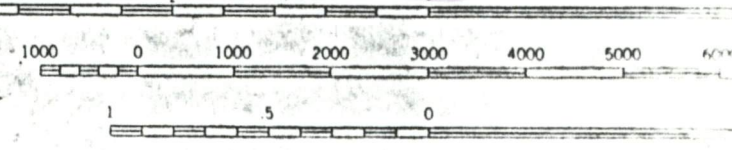


CATAWISSA, PA.

NW/4 CATAWISSA 15

QUADRANGLE

N 40 52.5 - W 76 22.5 / 1.5



(MOUNT CARMEL)
5765 IV SW



Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000712

79003185

Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Inventory of Historic Places

Official use only
NUMBER:

SEE INFORMATION SHEET BEFORE FILLING OUT FORM
PLEASE TYPE

(38-19-37)

1 HISTORICAL NAME OF PROPERTY:

Johnson Covered Bridge #28

2 LOCATION:

SR 320

Catawissa river

STREET Township Route 320 CITY East of Knoebel's Grove Amusement Park
TOWNSHIP Cleveland COUNTY Columbia 11th Congressional District

3 CLASSIFICATION:

PRESENT USE

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Park
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious
<input type="checkbox"/> site		NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
<input type="checkbox"/> object			<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation
	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: restricted		
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: unrestricted		
		<input type="checkbox"/> No		

4 OWNERSHIP:

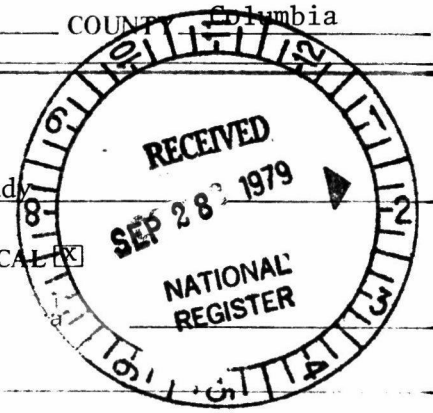
NAME Columbia County Commissioners STREET Main Street, Court House
CITY,TOWN Bloomsburg STATE Pennsylvania ZIP 17815

5 LOCATION of LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Columbia County Court House
STREET Main Street CITY,TOWN Bloomsburg COUNTY Columbia

6 REPRESENTATION in EXISTING SURVEYS:

TITLE OF SURVEY: Columbia/Montour Historic Transportation Study
DATE OF SURVEY: 1976 FEDERAL STATE LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Columbia County Court House
CITY Bloomsburg STATE Pennsylvania



7

DESCRIPTION:

Check One

Original Site

Moved Date _____

Architectural Description: A written description including features such as stories in height, length and width, number of bays, alterations and additions to the main structure; type of roof, windows, door, chimney design and placement, materials and style of construction; and a floor plan, if possible.

The Johnson Covered Bridge is 60.25 feet long, with a roadway width of 13.5 feet, and clearance of 12 feet. It is of the Warren Truss design. Iron tension rods connecting with the lower chord parallel the queen post.

The roof consists of metal panels over wooden ribs which fit over rafters. The portals tilt inward slightly from the roof to the deck and are of board and batten style.

The board and batten wall coverings are sagging and in need of repairs.

The floor is covered with horizontal boards with two runways on top. The undergridding has six boards pinned thickness wise together around the main structural brace where it meets the abutments.

The abutments have been extensively patched with concrete.

Oak, pine, or hemlock was generally the type of lumber used in the building of these bridges.



SIGNIFICANCE:

Statement: Write in your own words a brief statement of significance for each area checked.

PERIOD

1600 - 1699
1700 - 1799

1800 - 1899
1900 - Present

architect: _____
builder: Daniel Stine

AREA

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | _____ |

Engineering - Open wooded bridges were the first to be built. But because of their short life span, covered bridges became more popular. Columbia County's bridges are designed with either the King Post for shorter spans, Warren Truss, Queen Post for longer spans, Theodore Burr or the Howe Truss. Because covered bridges have not been built within the last half century in Columbia County, the design and engineering of these structures is unique.

Transportation - Because of the rapid growth of towns, bridges were needed to facilitate travel. Because much of the business was geared to farming, saw and grist mills, bridges were needed to provide transportation between these various activities.



